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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1593
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 6367
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 3691
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 7557
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 4811
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 2063
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 0605
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 2136
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 3220
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 1959
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 4261
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 4700
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 9285
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO 0923
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 2090
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RHMFISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL
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C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 003321

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WHA/CCA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/18/2016

TAGS: [ECON](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [BL](#)

SUBJECT: BOLIVIA: INPUT FOR REVIEW OF TITLE III OF THE
LIBERTAD ACT

REF: A. SECSTATE 191752

[1](#)B. LA PAZ 1172

Classified By: ECOPOL Andrew Erickson for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

(C) The following responses are keyed to the questions in
reftel A:

-- Bolivian businesses have no significant investments in
Cuba.

-- Bolivia and Cuba signed a limited Economic Cooperation
Agreement in May 2005. The accord offers preferential tariff
treatment to specified goods from each country but has had
little impact on the volume of bilateral trade, which totaled
an estimated \$5,000 in 2005 and \$200 in the first half of
[1](#)2006. Bolivia's trade with Cuba has remained negligible,
even after the GOB signed a Peoples' Trade Agreement with
Cuba and Venezuela on and joined the Bolivarian Alternative
to the Americas (ALBA) on April 29, 2006. The agreements are
meant to advance economic, political, and cultural
integration but have generated few results. (Reftel B)

-- Under the Peoples, Trade Agreement, Cuba promised to
provide free eye treatments to all Bolivians lacking
appropriate financial resources; to assist Bolivian and other
doctors in providing these services; and to provide 5,000
scholarships to train Bolivian medical personnel. An
estimated 2,000 Cuban doctors are currently working in
Bolivia.

-- The GOB has not worked to promote the advancement of
democracy and human rights in Cuba. The GOB is increasingly
aligned with the Cuban government and is not likely to make
any public statements that would be critical of human rights

abuses in Cuba, to support civil society, or to take any other actions which could be perceived as subversive by the Cuban government.

-- In the past six months there were approximately four high level visits between Cuba and Bolivia:

-- August 6: Vice President Carlos Lage accompanied President Evo Morales and representatives of Argentina, Venezuela, and Chile to Sucre for the inauguration of Bolivia's Constituent Assembly.

-- September 6: President Morales made a surprise visit to Cuba to visit ailing Cuban President Fidel Castro as well as to meet with Raul Castro, Cuban Vice President Lage, and Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque.

-- September 15: President Morales attended the Non-Aligned Movement Summit held in Havana, Cuba. During his visit, Morales visited Castro and held meetings with interim leader Raul Castro.

-- December 1: President Morales traveled to Cuba to Castro's the 80th birthday celebration.

URS